

# EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE

## Patent Abstracts of Japan

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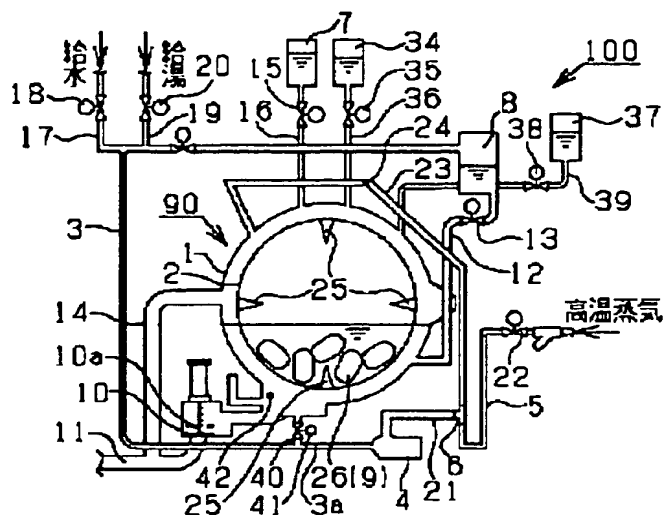
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TITLE : CLEANING DEVICE AND METHOD



**ABSTRACT :** PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To facilitate the temperature control of water for washing by installing a mixer to mix water with high-temperature steam to generate warm water at a location separated from the outer drum of a washing machine with a rotating inner drum and the fixed-type outer drum and connecting the mixer to the inside of the washing machine by a circulating path.

**SOLUTION:** A cleaning device is provided with a washing machine 90 formed by housing a rotation-free inner drum 2 in an outer drum 1 and a mixer 6 to mix water from a water supply pipe 3 provided with a pump 4 with hot- temperature steam from a high-temperature steam supply pipe 5 to generate warm water. The mixer 6 is disposed at a location separated from the outer drum 1 to prevent the heat of the high-temperature steam from being directly transferred to the outer drum 1. Then generated warm water is supplied for the inside of the outer drum 1 via a pipe 23 provided with a thermistor 24. In addition, a shrink-proofing liquid concentrate supplying device 7 and a detergent supplying device 8 housing a detergent formed of an anionic surface active agent are installed and are each connected to the outer drum 1 via pipes 16 and 12 provided with 15 and 13, respectively. Drainage in the outer drum 1 is discharged from a drainpipe 14.

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